

REMARKS

The above amendments are presented in response to the Office Action mailed October 8, 2003. Claims 1-190 have been cancelled without prejudice, and claims 191-217 are newly presented. Reconsideration and examination are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action a number of claim rejections were presented for claims 1-190. As these claims have been cancelled, it is believed that the rejections are rendered moot. It is believed that the newly presented claims in this Amendment are in condition for allowance as submitted. It does not appear from the detailed Office Action that further comment on the newly submitted claims will be helpful at this time.

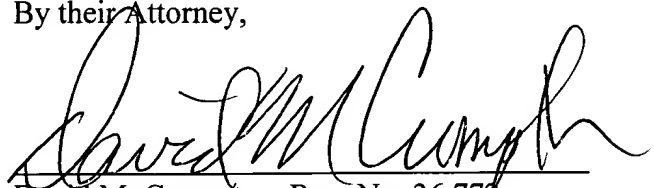
Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested. It is believed that pending claims 191-217 are in condition for allowance as submitted. Issuance of a notice of allowance in due course is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at 612-677-9050.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Rissmann et al.

By their Attorney,

Date: 2/6/04



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